



Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet

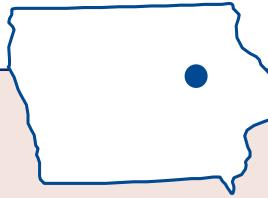
Waterloo, IA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Waterloo was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant and a cleanup grant. Waterloo (population 68,747), once known as the "Factory City of Iowa," has experienced a ten percent population decline since 1980. When John Deere, the city's largest employer, downsized its workforce by 10,000, the entire city was impacted. At the same time, several other large employers ceased operations. Many of the commercial and industrial buildings in the Rath Neighborhood area, targeted for assessment and cleanup, are the legacy of the decline in industrial manufacturing and agricultural operations. The populations in the neighborhoods surrounding these sites are characterized by higher poverty rates, lower incomes,



Assessment Grant

New
2005

\$50,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Waterloo for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to conduct community outreach activities, perform Phase I and II environmental site assessments, develop cleanup plans, and monitor risks to sensitive populations at the former Chamberlain Manufacturing Complex. Potential soil and groundwater contamination is suspected based on the historical use of the site for metals and ammunition manufacturing from the early 1900s to 1980.

Cleanup Grant

New
2005

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of Waterloo for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to promote community involvement and plan and conduct cleanup at the Construction Machinery Company (CMC) site at 625 Glenwood Street. The CMC site has a history of manufacturing uses associated with the risk of generating potentially serious contaminants dating back to the early 1900s. Previous assessments have identified a variety of releases, including benzo(a)pyrene, arsenic, lead, and tetrachloroethene, at areas of concern around the property.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 7 Brownfields Team

913-551-7646

<http://www.epa.gov/Region7/citizens/brownfields/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: City of Waterloo, IA

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and a higher percentage of minorities than the state. Many residents are underemployed, earning less than is necessary to bring their families above the poverty level. The brownfields have driven some companies to relocate to greenfields, thereby contributing to urban sprawl and consuming farmland in a state that relies heavily on the agricultural sector. Assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of the sites in the target area will remove environmental hazards, improve the aesthetics of the neighborhood, prevent further sprawl, and create better-paying employment opportunities for area residents.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.